

CONFIDENTIAL

31 August 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Appendices to NIE-90: Soviet Bloc Capabilities
Through Mid-1955

1. These Appendices contain the detailed assessment of Bloc strengths and weaknesses on which are based our estimates of Bloc capabilities (NIE-90) and Bloc intentions (NIE-95). Similar Appendices to NIE-64, were approved by the IAC a year ago. The Board considers that this annual agreed review of Bloc resources is one of its most important efforts; not only our estimates of Bloc capabilities and intentions, but many other estimates prepared in the course of the year depend in large part upon the information collected in these Appendices.

2. Preparation of these Appendices has extended over several months, and has involved many meetings of agency representatives. At the last clean-up session a good many changes, most of them of minor importance, were made in the present dittoed copy. Today the Navy has submitted revised CB figures for submarines. So far as I know, however, there are no reservations or dissents by any agency on the text as finally amended.

3. You may wish particularly to note that paragraphs on thermonuclear weapons (pages 17 and 26) have been deleted, and a note substituted which gives reference to a forthcoming revision of the text of NIE-90 on this subject.

Acting Assistant Director
National Estimates

AES:PAB:le

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